(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Indian Airlines, has no plans to operate services between Bhopal and Jabalpur due to constraints of suitable type of aircraft in its fleet.

Enhancement of air services

6. SHRI R K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the frequency of flights to Bhopal;

(b) if so, by when additional flights are likely to resume; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to Indian Airlines, in view of commercial considerations and capacity constraints increase in frequency of flights to Bhopal is not feasible at present.

Air service from Vijayawada airport

7. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether air traffic to and fro Vijayawada airport in Andhra Pradesh has commenced;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of air companies which are operating their flights from the said airport; and

(d) what steps Government have taken to make this airport airworthy for big aircrafts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) M/s Air Deccan have comnmenced scheduled operations with effect from September 29,2003 at Vijayawada airport. Apart from this, non-scheduled operations are also taking place at this airport.

(d) Vijayawada airport is suitable for operation of Boeing 737 type of aircraft with restricted load in fair weather conditions.

Impact of Open Sky Policy on AI and IA

8. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'Open Sky' policy for ASEAN is likely to hit the earnings of Air India and Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to prevent any adverse impact on the revenue of Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) and (b) At present, Government does not pursue 'Open Sky' Policy for ASEAN nations. Certain additional routes and entitlements have been offered to ASEAN nations on reciprocal basis during ASEAN-India Summit at Bali recently. Revenue implications of this offer for Air India and Indian Airlines can not be predicted at this stage.

Development of runway at Haridwar

†9. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL controlled runway at Haridwar is proposed to be developed as a regular runway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the details of the steps being taken to provide proper air service to the city in view of its international importance as a religious city?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) has

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.